PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Divisional of U.S. Appln. No. 09/255,699 (Q66129)

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested. By this

Preliminary Amendment, Applicants (1) cancel claims 1, 2, and 10-12, (2) rewrite claims 5, 13,

and 17 in independent form, and (3) amends the remaining claims to depend from either claim 5

or 13. Claims 3-9 and 13-17 are the only claims pending in the application.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application on the merits at the

earliest possible time. If the Examiner would like to discuss any points through a personal or

telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone

number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain

the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be

charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 41,060

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: July 15, 2003

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